

Central Intelligence Agency



Washington, D.C. 20505

29 JUL 1986

The Honorable Ted Stevens
Chairman, Subcommittee on Defense
Committee on Appropriations
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Mr. Chairman:

I am writing in response to your letter of 16 May in which you expressed concern about the security of the Agency's telephone systems.

We share your concerns and have taken the opportunity presented by the construction of the New Headquarters Building to improve the security of our telephone systems throughout the Headquarters compound, including both data and voice communications.

In 1961, when our telephone systems were originally installed, we could not have anticipated the changes in technology and the increased security threats with which we would be wrestling in the 1980s. Until recently, the nonsecure telephone system was leased from and maintained by AT&T. All AT&T personnel working on our system, however, were required to have CIA security clearances. The secure telephone system has always been a separate system, owned and maintained by CIA staff personnel.

As part of the New Headquarters Building program, we installed a new nonsecure telephone system which the Agency owns and maintains. We have also enhanced the service available in the Agency-controlled secure telephone system. We now have complete control over both the secure and nonsecure telephone systems throughout the Headquarters compound. I am confident that these and other steps we have taken will greatly improve the security of our telephone systems.

Sincerely,

/s/ William J. Casey

William J. Casey
Director of Central Intelligence

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